

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05 COME-00 /060 W
-----101008 170915Z /11

R 161601Z JUN 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0938
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 09155

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN, EAID, ML
SUBJECT: BRANDT COMMISSION

REF: (A) BAMAKO 2143, (B) STATE 095155

1. ACCORDING ABRAMOVIC, DIRECTOR SECRETARIAT OF BRANDT COMMISSION, THE MEETING IN MALI HAD THREE MAIN ITEMS ON ITS AGENDA: COMMODITIES, LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND BASIC NEEDS. LITTLE CONCRETE IN TERMS OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FINAL REPORT RESULTED FROM THIS MEETING INASMUCH AS THE COMMISSION DECIDED NOT TO REVIEW THE COMMODITIES ISSUES SO LONG AS THE COMMON FUND AND IPC DISCUSSIONS WERE UNDERWAY IN UNCTAD, RESCHEDULING DISCUSSION OF THIS TOPIC FOR FEBRUARY 1979 IN THE MIDDLE EAST. IN RELATION TO THE LEAST DEVELOPED PROBLEMS, THE COMMISSION DECIDED TO ESTABLISH A SUB-GROUP TO CONTINUE TO LOOK INTO THE PROBLEM. WHILE NOT SPECIFICALLY STATED BY AVRAMOVIC, THE DISCUSSION CONCERNING BASIC HUMAN NEEDS APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT WAS NOT ENTHUSIASTICALLY ENDORSED, BUT VIEWED
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SOMEWHAT SUSPICIOUSLY AS AN EFFORT NOT TO COPE WITH OTHER MAJOR APPROACHES AS MARKET ACCESS, COMMODITY POLICIES, ETC.

2. THE NEXT SESSION OF THE COMMISSION, SCHEDULED FOR LATE AUGUST 1978 ON THE EASTERN SHORE, MARYLAND, WILL DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING TOPICS: DEBT, INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND

THE BRAIN DRAIN (INCLUDING A SCHEME FOR A COMPENSATORY FUND), MUTUAL INTERESTS (READ INTERDEPENDENCE) AND FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT. SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION IN NOVEMBER IN ASIA ARE THE FOLLOWING: ACCESS TO MARKETS, ECDC, EXHAUSTIBLE RESOURCES, TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, AND TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS. THE FEBRUARY 1979 MEETING IN THE MIDDLE EAST (MOST LIKELY SAUDI ARABIA) WILL COVER INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL AND MONETARY SYSTEM AND INSTITUTIONS, COMMODITIES (RESUMED), ARMAMENTS AND DEVELOPMENT, AUTOMATIC RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPMENT, AND PROSPECTS FOR THE 1980S. THE MAY 1979 MEETING IN LATIN AMERICA WILL COVER INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL AND MONETARY SYSTEMS AND INSTITUTIONS (RESUMED), DEBT (RESUMED), INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATING MACHINERY, AND WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT. THE FINAL SESSION IN VIENNA IN JUNE 1979 WILL BE DEDICATED TO DRAFTING THE FINAL REPORT.

3. COMMENT: ACCORDING TO AVRAMOVIC, IT IS TOO EARLY TO GLEAN ANY TREND IN THE OUTCOME OF THE DISCUSSIONS SO FAR. HE INDICATED THAT THE COMMISSIONERS HAVE A PREDILECTION FOR A SHORT REPORT OF CONCLUSIONS ONLY, LEAVING DETAILED DISCUSSION OF HOW IT ARRIVED AT SUCH CONCLUSIONS TO LONGER ANNEXES, PRESUMABLY TO BE DRAFTED BY THE SECRETARIAT. IF AVRAMOVIC'S PERSONAL APPROACH COMES TO BE REFLECTED IN THE REPORT, THE OUTCOME OF THE DISCUSSIONS ON EACH OF THE TOPIC AREAS LISTED ABOVE WILL BE INTER-CONFIDENTIAL

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TWINED IN ONE LONG RECOMMENDATION WHICH WILL ATTEMPT TO DEMONSTRATE THE "GAINS AND LOSSES" FOR DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FROM AN OVERALL COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMISSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA09155
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780253-0992
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780651/aaaabsfl.tel
Line Count: 98
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5826e287-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BAMAKO 2143, 78 STATE 95155
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2325895
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRANDT COMMISSION
TAGS: EGEN, EAID, ML
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5826e287-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014